

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040289

FROM NEA/IRN:NAAS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, IR

SUBJECT: GENERAL MOGHAREBI

1. PARA TWO BELOW QUOTES LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN LEE HAMILTON CONCERNING JACK ANDERSON COLUMN WHICH REFERRED TO GENERAL MOGHAREBI. PARA THREE HAS SUGGESTED REPLY TO HAMILTON. THIS LETTER HAS BEEN CLEARED IN SUBSTANCE BY ALL CONCERNED OFFICES IN AND OUT OF STATE BUT I THOUGHT IT PRUDENT TO ELICIT YOUR COMMENTS. LETTER WILL BE UNCLASSIFIED AND COULD BE PLACED ON THE RECORD OR GIVEN TO PRESS BY HAMILTON.

2. TEXT HAMILTON LETTER. QUOTE:

ATTACHED IS A COPY OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 1978 JACK ANDERSON COLUMN DEALING WITH IRAN.

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THE ARTICLE SAYS IN THE CIRCLED PORTION THAT AN IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER HAD SLIPPED AWACS SECRETS TO THE SOVIETS AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY EXECUTED.

I WOULD LIKE THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO COORDINATE FOR THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION WHETHER ANY OF THIS INFORMATION IS TRUE AND PRECISELY WHAT SECRETS ON WHAT SYSTEMS MAY HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE SOVIETS. I WOULD EXPECT YOUR REPLY TO HAVE THE INPUT OF THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AND THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

I APPRECIATE YOUR CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER. END QUOTE.

3. TEXT OF SUGGESTED REPLY. QUOTE: DEAR MR. HAMILTON:

THE SECRETARY HAS ASKED ME TO REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF FEBURARY 2 REGARDING THE JACK ANDERSON COLUMN OF FEBRUARY 2.

MAJOR GENERAL MOGHAREBI WAS NOT A HIGH INTELLIGENCE OFFICER; HE WAS DEPUTY CHIEF OF J-5 (PLANS, PROGRAMS AND BUDGET) OF THE SUPREME COMMANDER'S STAFF.

THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT KEPT US INFORMED OF THE ARREST, TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF GENERAL MOGHAREBI AND HAS COOPERATED WITH US IN TRYING TO ASSESS WHETHER GENERAL MOGHAREBI COMPROMISED ANY SENSITIVE U.S. DATA. WITH RESPECT TO AWACS IN PARTICULAR--WHICH MR. ANDERSON MENTIONED--THE LETTERS OF OFFER CONTAINING DETAILED INFORMATION WERE NOT SIGNED UNTIL LATE OCTOBER 1977. BY THAT TIME, GENERAL MOGHAREBI HAD BEEN ARRESTED. THE FIRST AWACS WILL NOT BE DELIVERED TO IRAN UNTIL 1980.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IS CURRENTLY CARRYING OUT A STUDY TO ASSESS WHAT, IF ANY, COMPROMISE OF SENSITIVE TECHNICAL DATA MAY HAVE OCCURRED. THIS CAREFUL AND DETAILED REVIEW WILL NOT BE COMPLETED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. WE WILL BE IN FURTHER TOUCH WITH YOU AT THAT TIME IF YOU WISH.

SINCERELY, DOUGLAS J. BENNETT END QUOTE.

4. THIS MESSAGE NEA DISTRIBUTION ONLY. VANCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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